rock free from cracks and deformations could be obtained for use in the several new buildings under construction.

Production of sponge gold :—

Bellara Gold Mines.

1016. There was an opening stock of 34·4 ozs. of sponge gold at the commencement of the year. A weight of 257·6 ozs. (330·8 ozs.) of sponge gold was obtained during the year from 7,288 (3,380) tons of ore treated in the stamp mill. Also a weight of 166·4 (82) ozs. of sponge gold was obtained in the tube mill by treating 7,183 (1,991) tons of stamp mill tailings and 7 tons of gold bearing quartz pebbles, bringing the total quantity of sponge gold produced during the year to 624 (412·8) ozs.

Sale of gold.

1017. A weight of 893 tolas 3 annas and 1 grain (359·2 ozs.) of fine gold was sold and a sum of Rs. 75,242 was realised therefrom.

1018. The Department participated in the Dasara Exhibition at Mysore and the Congress Exhibition at Bangalore during of the year.

(ii) Archæology

1019. The conservation of the monuments of National importance in the Mysore State which was hitherto being looked after by the Government of Mysore on an "Agency" basis was taken over under the direct control of the Department of Archæology, Government of India, with effect from 1st June 1953. Arrangements were made to transfer the charge of the National Monuments in the Mysore State to the Superintendent, Department of Archæology, Southern Circle, Madras.

Conservation of Ancient Monuments.

1020. One of the important measures relating to the conservation of monuments undertaken during the year, is the installation of electric lights to the Kesava temple at Somanathpur. The fortress and temples on the hill at Chitaldrug were jointly inspected by the Director of Archæology, Mysore with a view to concert measures for the proper preservation of the same. Other monuments like the Isvara temple at Anekonda, Davangere Taluk, Lakshminarasimha Temple at Vighnasante, Tiptur Taluk, Channakesava and Kallesvara Temples at Aralaguppe, Fort and Temples at Magadi, Ramesvara Temple at Ramnathpur, Rama Temple at Kudalur, Apprameya Temple at

MISCELLANEOUS.

Malur, etc., were also inspected. At Magadi, the tower over the western "Mahadvara" of the Ranganathaswami Temple which had collapsed some years back was reconstructed at a cost of Rs. 45,000.

1021. The ancient monuments at Santigrama, Hassan Taluk, were inspected in connection with the proposal to instal electric lights in the Kesava and Yoganarasimha temples.

Exploration.

1022. Near Totagere in the Nelamangala Taluk was discovered a small Temple dedicated to Siva. The god enshrined in the Temple is locally known as Arjunesvara. Though the temple is not architecturally important, it is an old monument which appears to date back to Circa 9th century A.D. Images of the Siva Panchayatana group kept in the temple though small in size bear all the early characteristics. There are also two inscriptions belonging to the Ganga king Sripurusha (C. 750 A.D.) in front of the temple.

1023. An important discovery of the year is that of five ancient metallic images in the Kudalur village of the Channapatna Taluk. The images were found by the villagers in a well in front of the ancient temple of Mangalesvara.

1024. Kudalur is a village situated on the left bank of the Kanva river at a distance of about five miles from Channapata, Bangalore District. It is gathered from the inscriptions that this village appears to have been a prosperous agrahara during the Ganga, Chola, and Hoysala days as were the other places in its vicinity, *i.e.*, Malur, Malurpatna, Honganur, etc. Kudalur appears to have been established as an Agrahara town during the days of the great Chola king Raja Raja. As usual the Sri Rama Temple was in the centre and the Mangalesvara Temple in the north-east corner of the Agrahara which was called as Raja Raja Chaturvedimangala during that period. The place was included in Killalai-nadu of Rajendra Chola-vala-nadu in Mudigonda-sola-mandalam. An overground survey of the area which was conducted during the year revealed the existence of several ruined temples, sculptures, inscriptions, ancient brick foundations and high mounds full of glazed redware and black-ware potsherds, sometimes with incised ornamentation.

MISCELLANEOUS

1025. Epigraphical tours were also undertakan by the technical staff of the Department in parts of Chitaldrug and Mysore Districts during the latter half of May 1953. About thirty-five new inscriptions were collected most of which belong to the Chitaldrug District. These epigraphs range in date between the 7th century A.D. and the 17th century A.D. The earliest of these records is a copper plate grant of the early Chalukya Prince Abhinavaditya Satyasraya, which is important in so far as it fills up a short gap in the history of the early Chalukyas. Another stone pillar inscription at Muchchanur (Chitaldrug District) which belongs to about the 10th century A.D. reveals the name of a Ganga prince "Mayindammarasa". Another record mentions an "Irugamayya" who might be the same as the Nadugal Chola Ruler Irugammayya of about the 11th century A.D. Epigraphy.

1026. A treasure trove consisting of twelve gold coins was discovered at Chikmalur village in the Channapatna Taluk while excavating the foundation trench of a house. These coins were examined and found to be the issues of the early rulers of Vijayanagar. Another treasure trove discovered at Jakkenahalli Village in the Channarayapatna Taluk consisting of more than seven hundred copper coins was also examined. Many of the coins in this hoard appear to be those struck under the Mysore rulers —Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan. Information regarding the discovery of more treasure troves in different parts of the State was also received from the District authorities and arrangements were made to study them. Two satavahana lead coins and a Roman silver coin were also received from the Honorary Curator, Museum of Antiquities, Chitaldrug for study. Numismatics.

1027. The collection of specimens in the Local Antiquities Museum, Chitaldrug, was augmented by the acquisition of some interesting exhibits consisting chiefly of ancient arms and armour. Among other notable exhibits collected for the museum mention has to be made of about thirty lead coins belonging to the Satavahana period. Museum.

1028. One of the important features of the Diamond Jubilee celebrations of the University History Association held in Mysore during March 1953, was the exhibition of Art and Archæology. Exhibition.

MISCEL-LANEOUS

Finance.

1029. The receipts and expenditure of the Department amounted to Rs. 27,079-10-8, and Rs. 27,079-10-8, respectively during the year. A sum of Rs. 815 was realised by the sale of the Departmental publications and photographs.

(iii) Government Press.

1030. The expenditure on the Government Central Press at Bangalore and the Branch Press at Mysore was Rs. 8,15,102 (7,65,734) and 1,28,664 (1,25,256) respectively.

1031. The amount realised on account of subscription to the "*Mysore Gazette*" was Rs. 26,341 (Rs. 26,008).

Government Central Book Depot, Bangalore.

1032. The publications of the Government Departments, Text Books of Education Department, the publicity Office, the Palace, the High Court of Mysore, Red Cross Society, the various Voters Lists, etc., were stocked and sold as usual at the Book Depot. The sale of Educational Publications was carried on through 392 Recognised Book Sellers and the Official Publications at the Government Central Book Depot, Bangalore. The number of subscribers to the Indian Law Reports (Mysore Series) was 199 as against 158 in the previous year. These Reports were also sold to the public in retail at the Book Depot. The total issues during the year was Rs. 4,23,891 (Rs. 4,76,360). The net cash realisation during the year amounted to Rs. 3,09,000 (Rs. 4,12,075).

Government Branch Press, Mysore.

1033. The usual works in connection with the Dasara and Birthday Sessions, the works of the Palace, Dasara Exhibition Committee, University and the Oriental Research Institute, Mysore, were carried out. Some of the Text Books of the Education Department were also printed. The works of Coorg Government and the question papers and other forms of the Education Department were also printed.

General.

1034. Students of Printing Technology of the Sri Jayachamarajendra Occupational Institute, Bangalore, and the students of II and III Year High School classes in Mysore and Bangalore, continued to receive training in printing during the year. Facilities were also given to the Press employees to appear for Examinations and to qualify themselves for higher positions in the Department.